

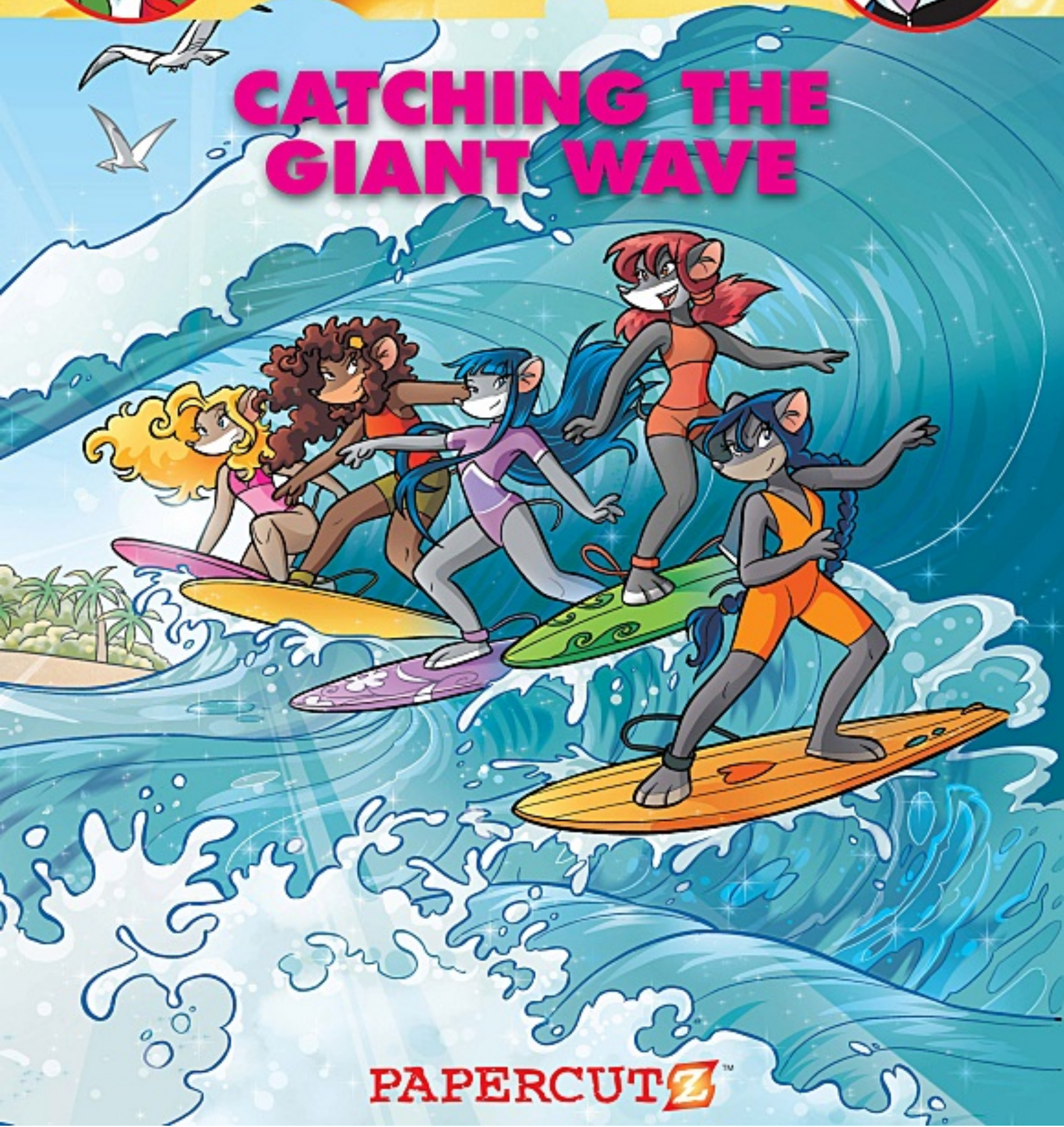
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Thea Stilton



# CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE



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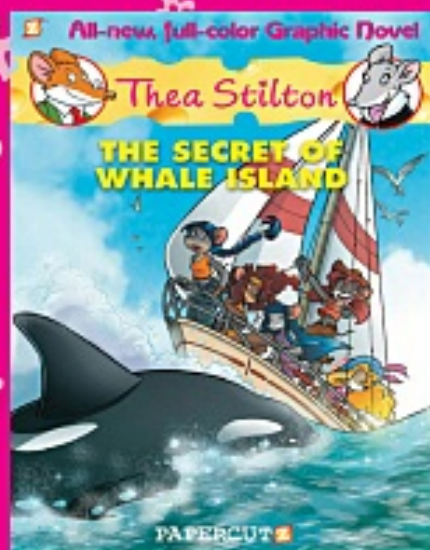


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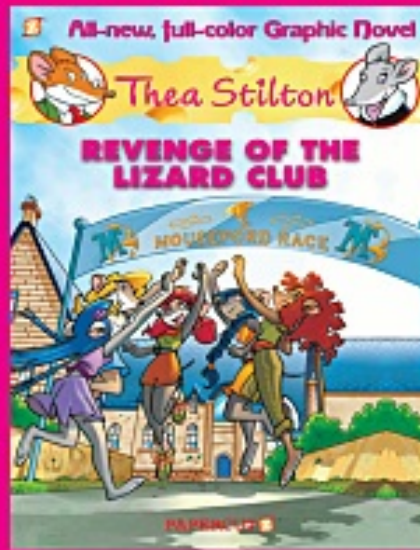


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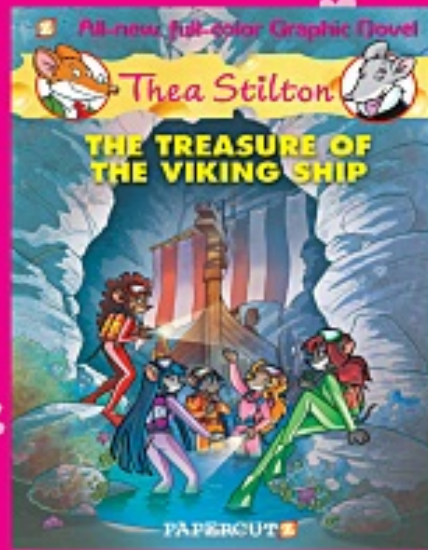
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# Thea Stilton

## **CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE**

**By Thea Stilton**





THEA STILTON #4  
CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE  
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FINALLY A LOVELY DAY OF  
SUN ON *Whale Island!*  
NICKY JUMPS AT THE  
CHANCE TO TEACH PAMELA  
AND PAULLINA HOW TO SURF.



THE ROUGH, CHOPPY SEA AT  
VERY WINDY POINT CALLS TO  
HER IRRESISTIBLY-- SINCE  
SHE'S USED TO THE OCEAN  
WAVES OF AUSTRALIA!



DON'T STIFFEN UP, PAM!  
LOOSE LEGS AND  
AN IRON WILL!

PULVERIZED  
PISTONS!

LOOK, VIOLET!  
PAM'S FACING HER  
FIRST WAVE!



EEH--  
GLUB!

FWOOSH



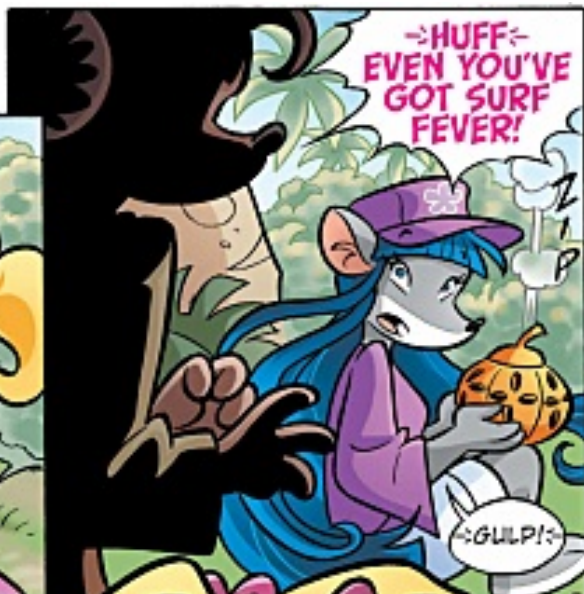
-SPLUT!-

HAI HAI HAI!  
YOU LOOK LIKE  
A SEAL, PAM!  
HEE! HEE!





HANG IN THERE, PAM! YOU'VE GOT A FUTURE--- ~~~AH~~~ IN THE FUNNY PAGES! HA! HA!



~HUFF~  
EVEN YOU'VE GOT SURF FEVER!



\* ONE OF DINA'S SISTERS. SHE RAISES BURROS AND LIKES TO DANCE.





MARY HEARD ABOUT THE NEW CENTER FROM HER SISTER DINA. SO THE THEA SISTERS DECIDE TO GET THE EXPLANATION STRAIGHT FROM HER...

IT'S THE MAYOR'S INITIATIVE! HE WANTS TO COMPETE WITH VISSIA DE VISSSEN AND HER SURF CLUB.

REALLY?!

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE MAYOR IS...

THEY JUST ELECTED HIM! IT'S ROMEO, VINCE GUYMOUSE'S COUSIN!

OH, THE OWNER OF THE RESTAURANT "CHEZ ROMEO!"

REALLY A NICE FUTURE!

ROMEO EXAGGERATES, BUT HE'S NOT BAD.

THE OLD CITY COUNCIL WAS AN OUTDATED INSTITUTION! THE ISLAND NEEDS A **MODERN** ADMINISTRATION!

ROMEO'S TRAVELLED THE WORLD! HE'S SEEN HOW THINGS WORK ELSEWHERE! AND NOW THAT HE'S BACK, HE WANTS TO "LAUNCH OUR ISLAND INTO THE FUTURE!"... OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS...

BUT WHY ELECT HIM, PRECISELY?

NO ONE ELSE WANTED TO TAKE ON THE JOB!

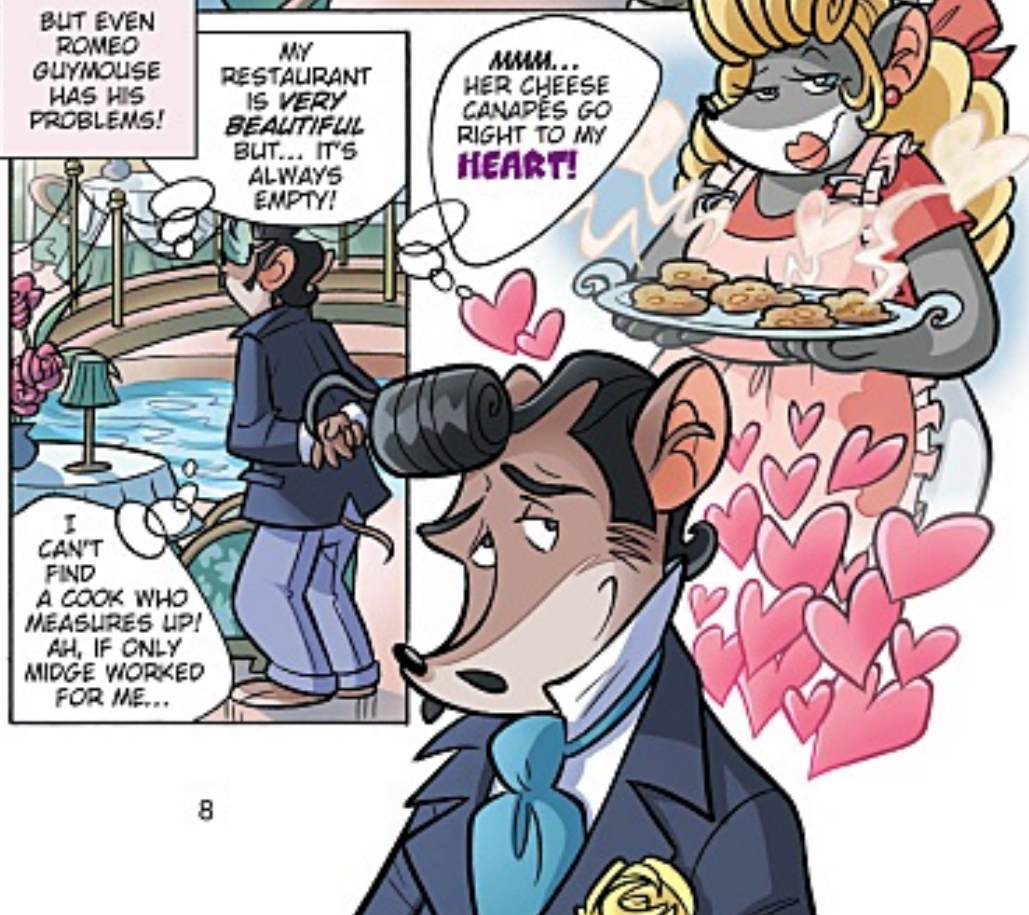
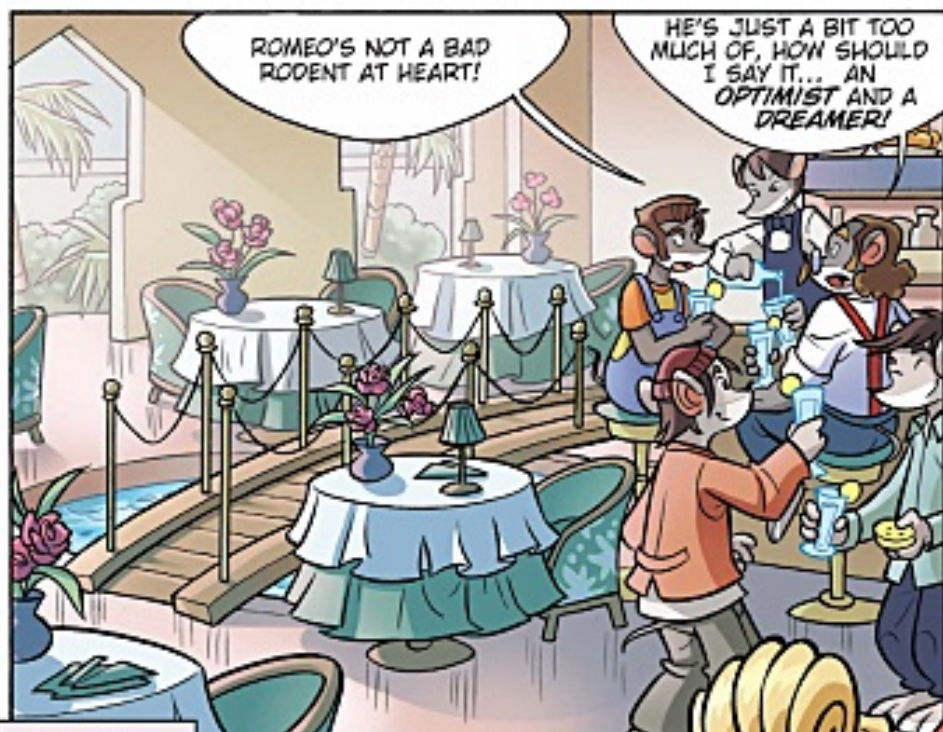
WE'LL TRANSFORM WHALE ISLAND INTO A PARADISE FOR THE RICH FROM AROUND THE WORLD!

IF ONLY RICH FOLKS STAY HERE, WHERE'LL OUR FISHERMEN GO?

EXCLUSIVE HOTELS! ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY! VERY DISTINGUISHED CLIENTELE!

"ROMEO GUYMOUSE IS A MAYOR WITH LOTS OF IDEAS AND INITIATIVES!"









QUICK, KID,  
GO TO THE FLORIST  
RIGHT AWAY! BUY A BUNCH  
OF ROSES AND SEND THEM TO  
MOUSEFORD ACADEMY... TO  
MISS MIDGE, FROM ME!

-GULP!-  
YES, SIR!



HEY! WHO WANTS  
TO ASK FOR THE  
HAND OF YOUR  
DAUGHTER  
MIDGE?

-HMPH!-



VISSIA DE VISSIN'S  
DREAMS ARE MUCH  
MORE PRACTICAL  
THAN ROMEO'S...

MY SURF  
CLUB OPENS IN  
A WEEK! THE  
MOST LUXURIOUS  
IN THE WORLD!

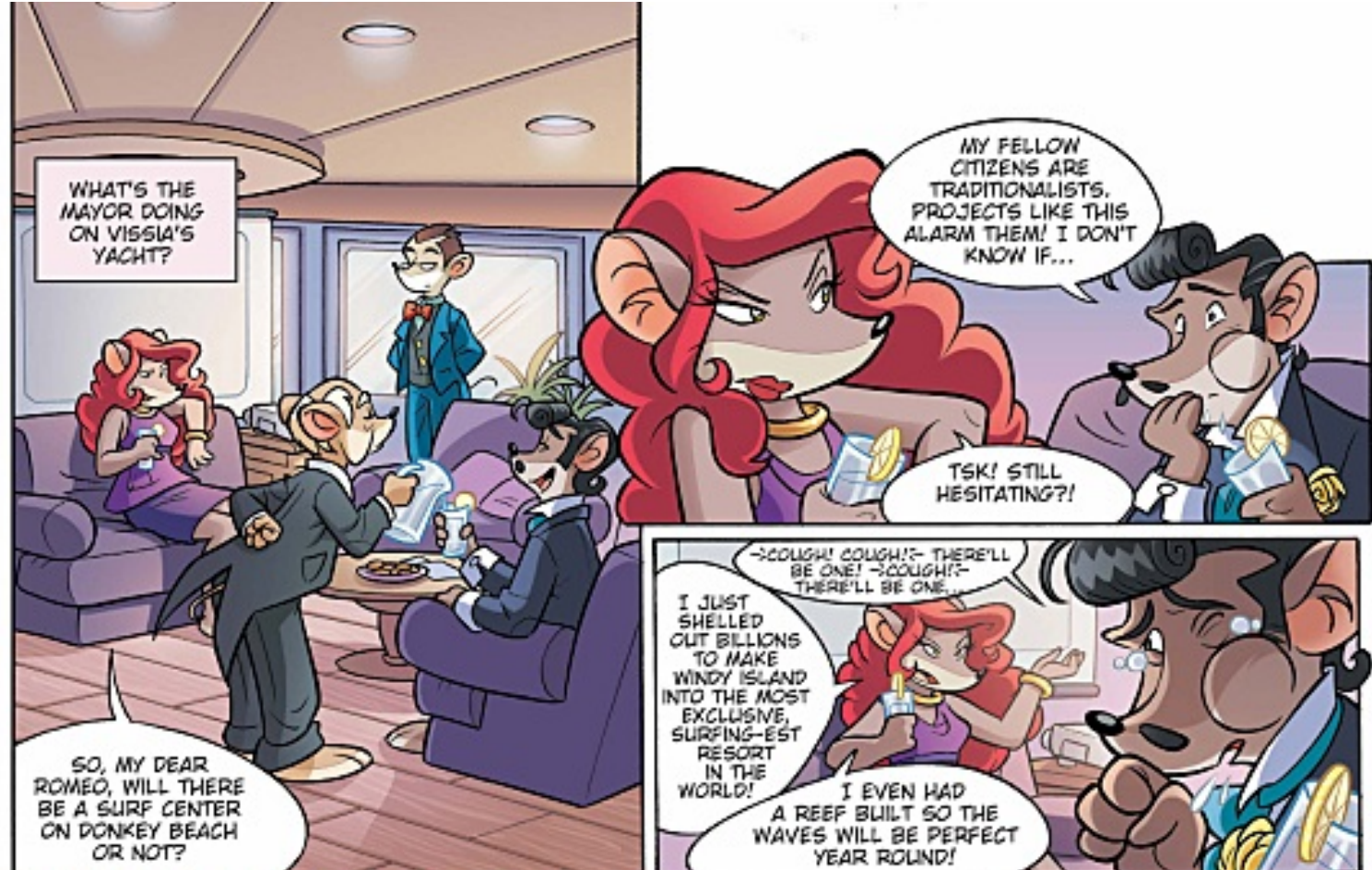


AND THIS  
IS JUST THE  
BEGINNING! NOW  
IT'S TIME TO **EXPAND**  
MY RANGE OF OPERATIONS!



WELCOME,  
MR. MAYOR!





BUT MY ISLAND WILL ONLY HOUSE A FEW PRIVILEGED PEOPLE! MASS TOURISM IS WHAT WILL BRING IN BIG PROFITS!















HEY?!  
WHAT'S  
GOTTEN INTO  
YOU? AND WHAT'S  
UP WITH NICKY?

GARY MOON'S  
THE AUSTRALIAN  
SURFING CHAMPION!  
NICKY'S OBSESSED WITH  
HIM... DIDN'T YOU KNOW?



OH, NOW I GET IT!  
HE'S THE GUY ON  
THE POSTER IN  
HER ROOM!

WHAT AN AWFUL BLOW,  
TO FIND OUT HE'LL BE  
VANILLA'S GUEST.  
POOR NICKY!

WHY WOULD GARY  
CARE ABOUT A FLIRT  
LIKE VANILLA?

**WOW!**  
HE'S REALLY  
CUTE!



DO YOU WANT ME TO  
GET HIS AUTOGRAPH,  
NICKY?

OH, PAM,  
THAT WOULD BE  
FANTASTIC!



LEAVE IT  
TO AN EXPERT!  
YOU'LL SEE, I'LL  
EVEN MANAGE  
TO GET YOU A  
DEDICATION!





AND THE REFERENDUM? DID YOU FORGET ABOUT IT, KIDS? WE'VE GOT TO SEE THAT THE MAYOR'S PLAN DOESN'T PASS!

RIGHT! BUT, HOW?

LET'S ASK THE HEADMASTER...

SO, A LITTLE LATER...

I SHARE YOUR CONCERNS, KIDS, BUT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY'S CHARTER DOESN'T ALLOW US TO INTERFERE WITH ISLAND POLITICS!

OH...



YOU'RE SO WELL RESPECTED ON THE ISLAND...

I'M SORRY, BUT MY PAWS ARE TIED!



SO, WHO CAN HELP US NOW?

PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN WILL CERTAINLY LEND US A PAW!

YES, BUT HIS LANGUAGE IS TOO... TECHNICAL.

YOU MEAN, NO ONE CAN UNDERSTAND HIM!



ROMEO GUYMOUSE, ON THE OTHER HAND, SURE KNOWS HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO LISTEN!

YOU'RE RIGHT! OUR MAYOR'S A GREAT SPEAKER!



I'M AFRAID THE BATTLE IS LOST BEFORE WE START...

AND HE'S SO DISTINGUISHED! A REAL GENTLEMOUSE!



NO, NO, AND ONCE AGAIN, NO! OUR BATTLE ISN'T LOST. OUR BATTLE IS **RIGHTEOUS!**



"AGREED. PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN ISN'T A GREAT SPEAKER, BUT HE CAN ALWAYS LEND US A PAW."

I'M WITH YOU, KIDS!

FIRST OF ALL, LET'S GO SEE WHAT MS. DE VISSER HAS DONE TO THE SEA FLOOR.

ENCLOSED SPACES AREN'T SO GOOD FOR ME... THE LAST TIME WAS TORTURE...

THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO INSPECT THE ARTIFICIAL REEF.

UHM... THE SUBMERSIBLE IS SO TINY AND I...

DON'T WORRY, NICKY! WE DON'T ALL NEED TO GO!

I'LL STAY ON DRY LAND WITH YOU!

I DON'T WANT TO GO UNDERWATER EITHER. THE HUMIDITY WILL MAKE MY HAIR ALL FRIZZY!

TAKE THE KEY TO MY ATV! GO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TOWN!

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TOWN!

HERO INTO THE FUTURE WITH ROMED!

CAREENING KANGAROOS! THE MAYOR'S DOING THINGS IN **STYLE!**







THERE WAS NO LACK OF SURPRISES UNDERWATER, EITHER!





THAT EVENING, AFTER RETURNING FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE "MISSIONS," THE THEA SISTERS WERE SUMMONED TO THE ACADEMY'S GREAT HALL, ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER STUDENTS...

HERE'S A NICE ANNOUNCEMENT! WE'VE BEEN INVITED TO MS. DE VISSSEN'S FOR THE OPENING OF THE SURF CLUB ON WINDY ISLAND!

THE FESTIVITIES WILL LAST THE ENTIRE WEEKEND!

YEAH!

HURRAY FOR VANILLA!

HURRAY FOR VIC!



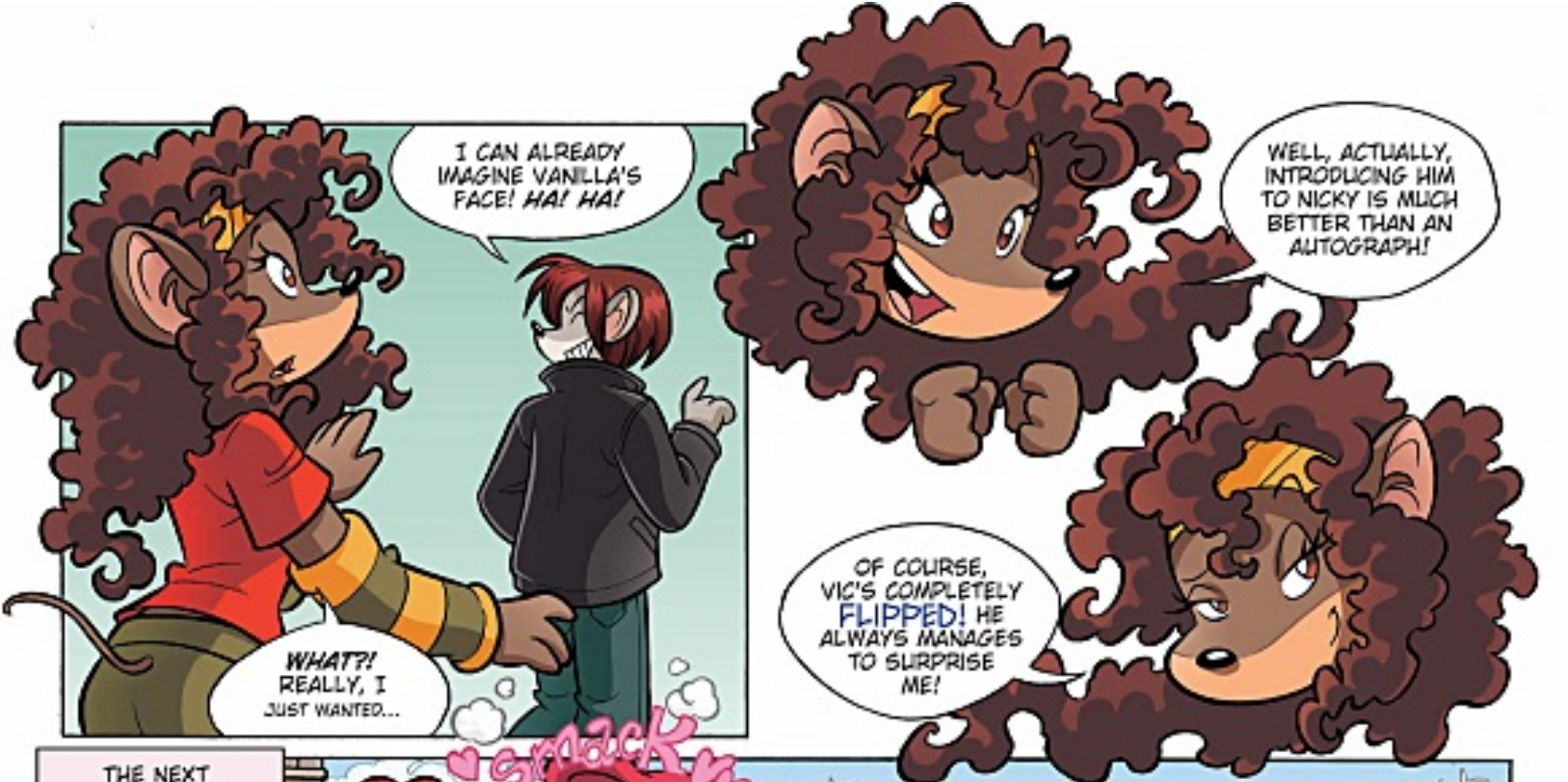
I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU... UM, IF I MIGHT!

SOMETHING **SECRET!** I'M INTRIGUED. SPIT IT OUT!

OH, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! NICKY ADORES SURFING AND IS A FAN OF GARY MOON... PERHAPS YOU COULD...

... TEAR HIM OUT OF MY SISTER'S CLUTCHES SO SHE CAN MEET HIM? WELL, IT WON'T BE EASY, BUT I'LL TRY!





THE NEXT MORNING, ON WINDY ISLAND...



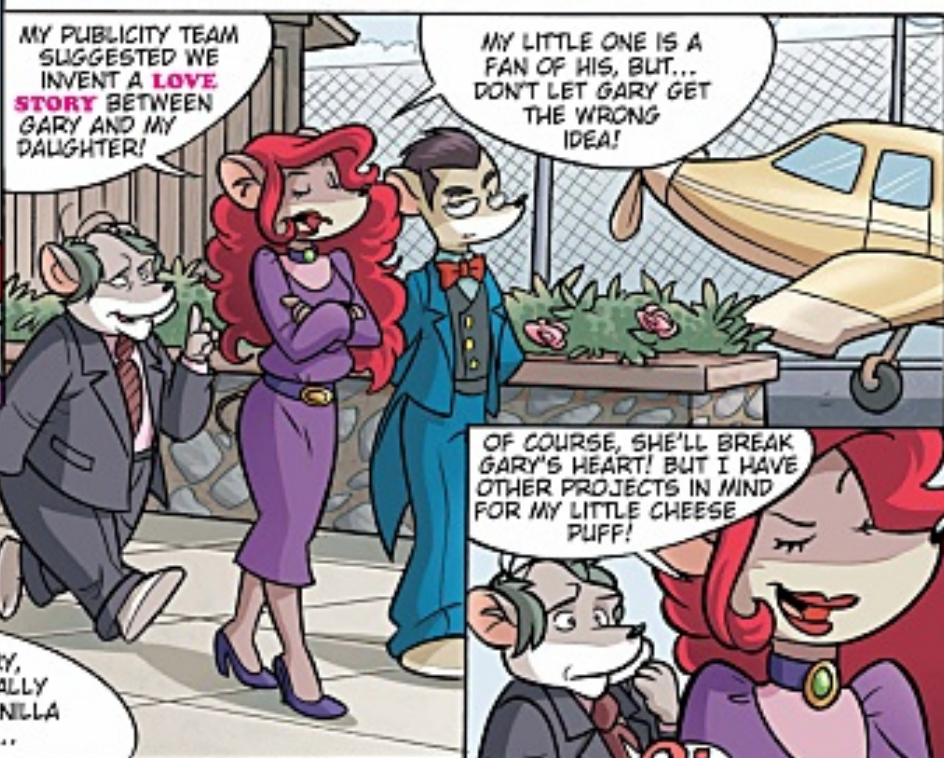
GARY MOON, AUSTRALIAN SURFING CHAMPION, STEPS OUT OF THE AIRPLANE AND IS MOBBED BY PHOTOGRAPHERS!



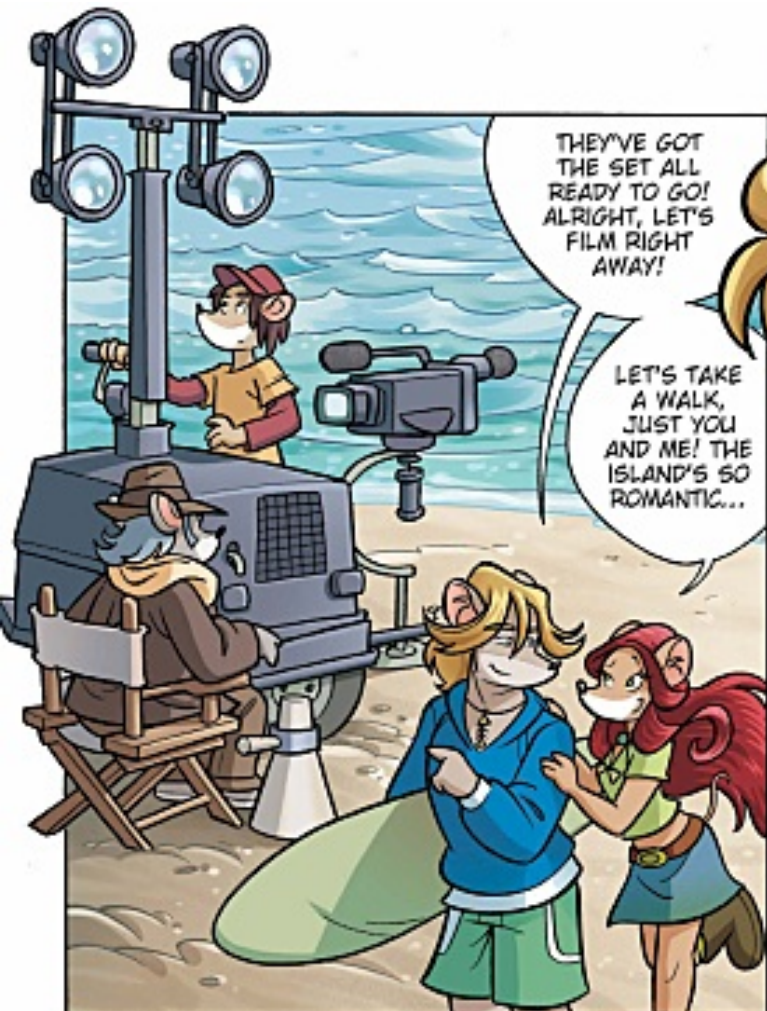
IT'S REAL TORTURE FOR A SHY MOUSE LIKE HIM!



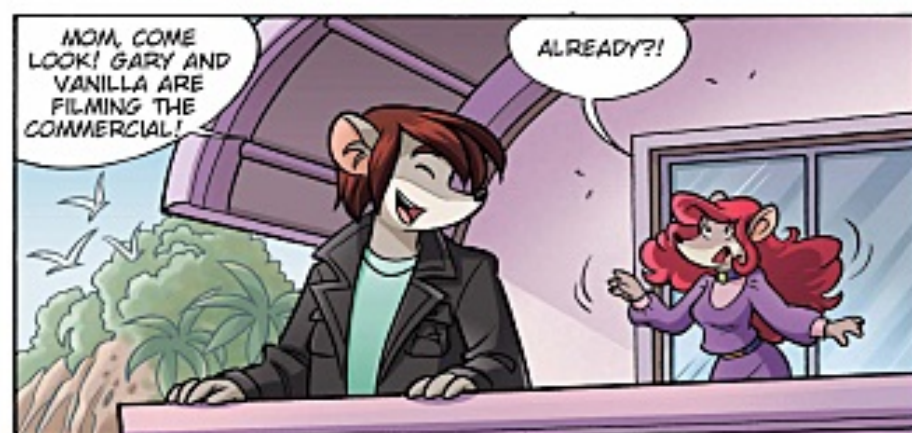














IN THE EVENING, THE LUXURIOUS **SURF CLUB** COMES ALIVE WITH GUESTS FOR THE OPENING...

WHAT LUXURY!

FLASH

FLASH

WHAT A MAGNIFICENT BUFFET!

WOW!  
SO MANY PEOPLE!

BUT WHERE'D THEY  
HIDE WONDERFUL  
GARY?

LOOK FOR  
VANILLA AND YOU'RE  
SURE TO FIND HIM...

COME ON, NICKY!  
DON'T BE SO SHY...  
HE'S JUST A GUY!

HEY, THERE! YOU  
FINALLY GOT HERE!

WHY? WERE  
YOU WAITING  
FOR US?

COME WITH ME, NICKY!  
VANILLA'S  
MOVED AWAY... WE HAVE  
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF IT!

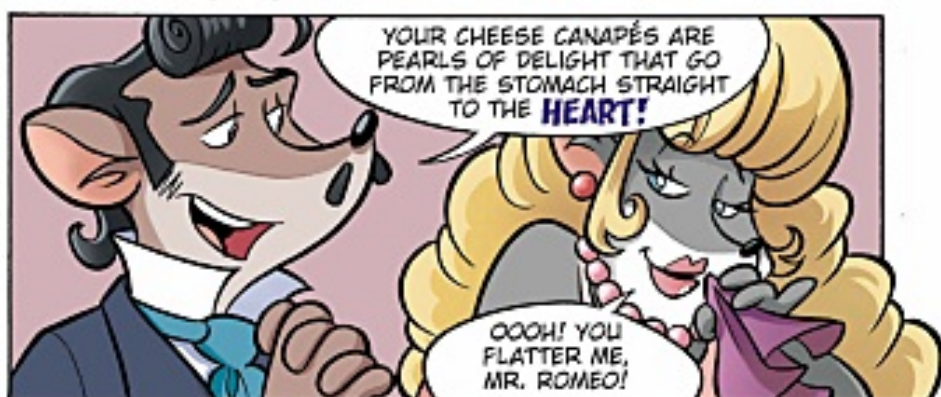
HUH?!

HEY!  
WHERE'RE  
YOU TAKING  
HER?!













THE EVENING STILL  
HAS OTHER SURPRISES  
IN STORE!









THE NEXT DAY,  
NICKY AND GARY  
RIDE THE WAVES  
TOGETHER...

HE'S RESERVED:  
HE DOESN'T LIKE  
CROWDS AND ONLY  
FEELS AT EASE ON  
HIS SURFBOARD...

I'LL  
LEAD YOU,  
NICKY!  
TRUST ME!

... BUT IT DOESN'T  
TAKE MANY WORDS  
TO KNOW THEY BOTH  
LIKE THE SAME  
THINGS!

THANKS,  
VIC!

DON'T MENTION IT!  
AGGRAVATING VANILLA  
IS MY FAVORITE  
SPORT!

—HMPH!—

DON'T  
WORRY! KEEP  
IN MIND, YOU'LL BE  
GARY'S GUIDE FOR THE  
WHOLE DAY TOMORROW!

NO SCHOOL  
TOMORROW?  
OH, MOM,  
YOU'RE  
GREAT!

SMACK!

I'VE PLANNED  
EVERYTHING, BECAUSE  
PAYING ATTENTION TO EVERY  
DETAIL LEADS TO PERFECTION!  
EVEN MY WAVES ARE WORKING  
WONDERFULLY!



BEAUTIFUL WAVES BUT...  
PERHAPS A  
BIT TOO BIG  
FOR A CALM  
DAY!

HELLO, ENGINEER  
O'CONNOR! DID  
YOU GET THE  
MEASUREMENTS FOR  
THE WINDY ISLAND  
REEF?

YES, PROFESSOR  
VAN KRAKEN. I  
GOT THEM BUT...  
THEY'RE ALL  
WRONG!

I ASSURE YOU,  
THEY'RE EXACT TO  
THE MILLIMETER!

IMPOSSIBLE! I DREW UP THE  
PLANS MYSELF... ALTHOUGH  
I DIDN'T WATCH THE  
CONSTRUCTION WORK  
AFTERWARDS.

THE  
MEASUREMENTS  
YOU SENT  
ARE ROUGHLY  
DOUBLE NINE!

OBTAINING,  
THEY MODIFIED  
THE PLANS!

THAT'S ABSURD!  
INSANE! AN ARTIFICIAL  
REEF THAT BIG WILL  
CAUSE A DISASTER! WE  
MUST TEAR IT DOWN  
IMMEDIATELY!

UNDER THE  
STARRY  
SKY, THOSE  
DANGEROUS  
WAVES SEEM  
PERFECT TO  
NICKY AND  
GARY AFTER  
A DAY OF  
FILMING...

AND THIS  
MOMENT  
IN THEIR  
LIVES  
ALSO  
SEEMS  
PERFECT!

THAT SHOULD BE GARY  
AND ME! YOU'LL PAY  
FOR THIS, NICKY!



ON MONDAY MORNING, IT WAS HARD FOR NICKY TO GET BACK TO FOCUSING ON HER STUDIES...



AND EVEN GARY HAS HIS HEAD IN THE CLOUDS! HE LETS HIMSELF BE DRAGGED AROUND WHALE ISLAND, BUT HE DOESN'T SEE ANYTHING THAT'S GOING ON AROUND HIM!



VISSIA PLANNED OUT THE CHAMPION'S EVERY STEP...



... IN AGREEMENT WITH JACK CAMERON, HIS AGENT!









TIME PASSES VERY SLOWLY AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY AS NICKY WAITS FOR THE HOUR OF THEIR DATE TO ARRIVE...



I'LL BE ABLE TO GET FREE AT EIGHT O'CLOCK... I PROMISE!



GARY'S ON TV!

~OOOF!~ ROMEO GLYMOUSE WILL GET LOADS OF VOTES, JUST FROM GARY'S APPEARANCE!

IT'S ALL PUBLICITY IN FAVOR OF THE SURF CENTER!

DO YOU LIKE OUR SEA, GARY? IS IT ALRIGHT FOR SURFING?



OH, IT'S REALLY MAGNIFICENT!

DID YOU CATCH THAT? NOW EVERYONE WILL THINK HE SUPPORTS THE MAYOR'S PROJECT!

BUT GARY DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT! HE JUST GOT HERE FROM AUSTRALIA!

WHEN YOU'RE FAMOUS, YOU HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU SAY!

GARY ONLY SAID THAT THE SEA IS GORGEOUS... AND IT'S TRUE!

WHAT A CUTE COUPLE! THEY'RE REALLY MADE FOR EACH OTHER!

HE'S FALLEN FOR HER! YOU CAN READ IT IN HIS FACE!

HUH?!



SOME  
PICTURES  
HURT MORE  
THAN ANY  
WORDS...



... AND THEN  
THE TWO INDULGED  
THEMSELVES WITH  
A ROMANTIC BREAK  
AT CHEZ ROMEO!

HE'S BEEN PLAYING  
ME FOR A FOOL!



SOB!

NICKY!



COME ON,  
OPEN UP!

KNOCK  
KNOCK

DON'T DO THIS,  
NICKY!

THERE  
MUST'VE BEEN A  
MISUNDERSTANDING!



LEAVE HER ALONE!  
SHE NEEDS TO LET  
OFF SOME STEAM!

WHAT A CAD!

CHAMPIONS  
ARE USED  
TO HAVING  
GIRLS THROW  
THEM-  
SELVES AT  
THEM!



THE THEA SISTERS  
ARE WRONG, BUT IT  
DOESN'T LOOK GOOD  
FOR GARY. SO...

NICKY'S NOT  
ANSWERING HER CELL  
PHONE! WHERE IS SHE?  
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!  
WHAT COULD HAVE  
HAPPENED?





NICKY'S NOT THE ONLY PERSON AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY WHO FEELS BETRAYED...



GIMME THAT!

OOPS!

WATCH AND TELL HIM EXACTLY WHAT MISS WHALE DID TO HIS ROSES!

BUT...



STOMP  
STOMP  
STOMP



THERE WE GO!

UM, REALLY...

...THE FLOWERS WERE FOR A CERTAIN MISS NICKY!



YOU HAVE TO FIX IT RIGHT AWAY! RUN! GET ANOTHER BOUQUET OF ROSES!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE THIS EVENING! THE SHOP IS CLOSED!





THE NEXT MORNING, THE SKIES  
ARE COVERED WITH CLOUDS,  
JUST LIKE NICKY'S HEART...

WHY'D HE  
LEAD ME ON  
LIKE THAT?

AND LIKE  
GARY'S  
HEART...

SHE DIDN'T COME  
AND SHE DIDN'T  
CALL ME!

WOOSH  
SPLASH!!

THE WIND  
IS BLOWING  
HARD AND THE  
WAVES ARE  
HUGE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU EVEN  
WANT TO GO IN THE  
WATER IN THIS  
WEATHER?

OF COURSE!  
TODAY'S THE PERFECT  
DAY FOR DOING STUNTS!

COME, QUICKLY!  
ROLL 'EM!


DON'T GET TOO  
FAR FROM THE SHORE,  
KID! SQUALLS COME  
ON SUDDENLY HERE!

WHAT I  
WOULDN'T GIVE  
TO BE SURFING  
THE WAVES  
WITH YOU!

NICKY CAN'T THINK  
OF ANYTHING  
EXCEPT HIM! BUT  
SHE DOESN'T  
WANT TO ADMIT IT,  
NOT EVEN TO HER  
CLOSEST FRIENDS!

I SHOULD HATE HIM, BUT  
INSTEAD... OH, GARY,  
I MISS YOU SO  
MUCH!





AROUND PEOPLE, HE FEELS  
AWKWARD. OTHER KIDS  
MAKE HIM FEEL INSECURE.  
BUT THE WAVES DON'T  
SCARE HIM AT ALL...

HE'S SO GOOD!  
IT'S AS IF HE'S  
BARELY SKIMMING  
THE SURFACE OF  
THE WATER!

OH, NO... THAT  
WAVE IS GIGANTIC!  
*LOOK OUT, GARY!*

GARY  
VENTS HIS  
FRUSTRATIONS  
ON THE  
CHALLENGES  
OF THE  
ROUGH SEAS!

ONLY ON HIS SURFBOARD  
DO ALL HIS DOUBTS  
DESERT HIM... AND HE  
SPREADS HIS WINGS!



IT SEEMS AS IF A MOUNTAIN IS RISING FROM THE SEA! IT'S A WAVE SO TALL THAT GARY CAN'T EVEN SEE THE END OF IT!

~AAAGH!~

GARYYYYYY!

AN ENORMOUS WALL OF WATER COVERS GARY...

AHHH!

HEEEELP!

WooooSHHH!

... AND THEN ANYTHING IN ITS PATH!







ALARM SPREADS  
ACROSS ALL OF  
*Whale Island...*

IN THE FACE OF AN EMERGENCY,  
THEY ALL PUT ASIDE THEIR  
DIFFERENCES AND RUSH TO  
HELP WHOEVER'S AT SEA!

TOOT TOOT TOOOOOOOT



EVEN THE BIG  
MOUSEFORD  
ACADEMY  
MOTORBOAT JOINS  
THE VESSELS,  
WITH PROFESSOR  
VAN KRAKEN,  
VIOLET, COLETTE,  
AND NICKY ON  
BOARD...

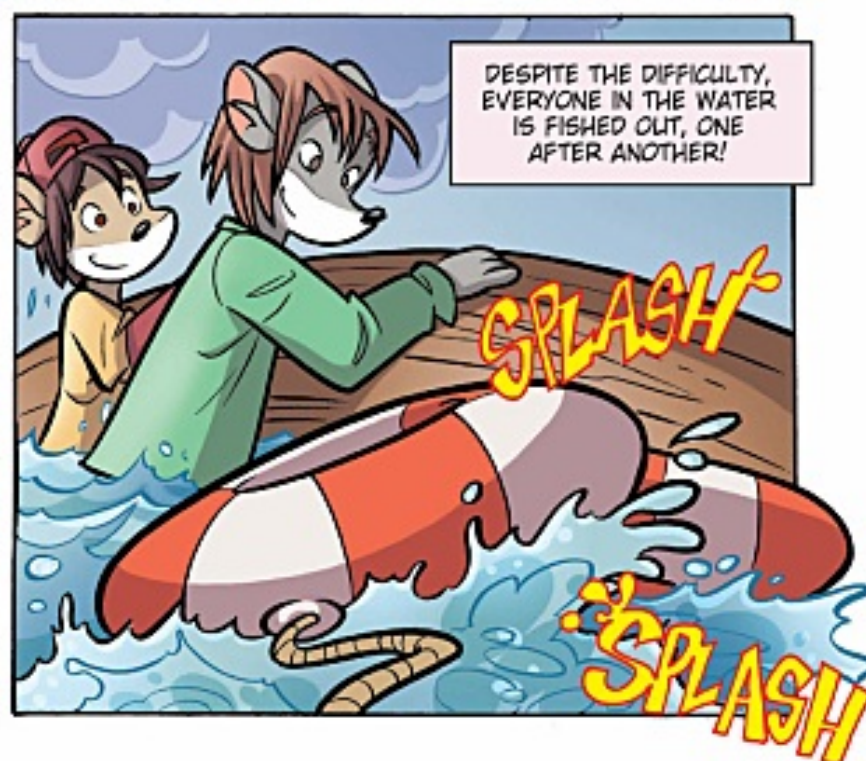


... AND VIC JOINS IN  
ON HIS MOTORBOAT  
TOO, WITH PAMELA AND  
PAULINA ON BOARD!

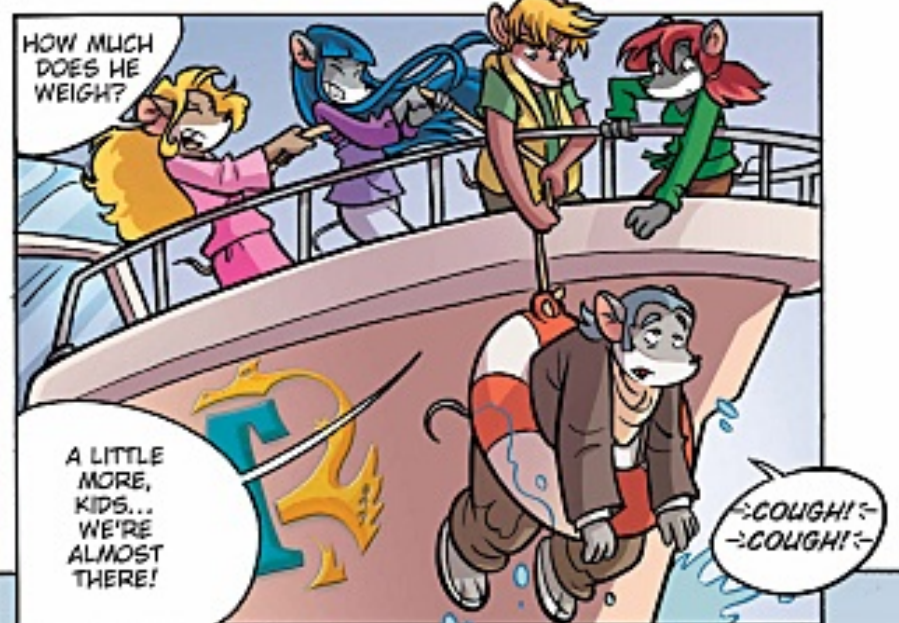
NINE MICE ARE  
MISSING FROM  
WINDY ISLAND!  
BUT WITH THE  
ROUGH SEAS,  
IT'S NOT EASY TO  
LOCATE THEM!



DESPITE THE DIFFICULTY,  
EVERYONE IN THE WATER  
IS FISHED OUT, ONE  
AFTER ANOTHER!













STILL, THE HOURS  
PASS AND THERE'S  
NO TRACE OF  
GARY...

THANKS, PAM!  
IS THERE  
STILL SOME  
TEA IN THE  
THERMOS?

IT'S THE LAST  
CUP! I'M AFRAID  
IT WON'T BE  
HOT ANY  
MORE  
BUT...

TAKE A  
LITTLE BREAK,  
VIC! I CAN  
DRIVE YOUR  
MOTORBOAT!

TURN RIGHT, PAM!  
I SAW SOMETHING  
ORANGE... LIKE  
GARY'S BOARD!

"YOU'RE RIGHT!  
IT'S REALLY HIM!"

GARY!  
GARY!

RNNNNN

LOOK OUT, PAM!  
YOU'RE MAKING THE  
WAVES TOO BIG! THE  
BOARD'S TILTING!

MUSTY  
MOZZARELLA!  
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS.

BE CAREFUL, VIC!  
THE CURRENT'S  
VERY STRONG  
HERE!

I'LL LET  
THE OTHERS  
KNOW WE  
FOUND HIM!

SPLASH







THE TERRIBLE ORDEAL IS OVER!  
THANKS TO VIC AND PAMELA,  
GARY FINALLY ARRIVES SAFELY  
ON *Whale Island*...

GARY!









THE EVENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A DISASTER FOR VISSIA, BUT INSTEAD...



NEWSPAPERS ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE TALKING ABOUT NOTHING ELSE!

ABOUT THE GIANT WAVE?

ABOUT THE **LOVE STORY** BETWEEN GARY AND HIS RESCUER!



JACK CAMERON CULTIVATED THE JOURNALISTS PROPERLY! HE'S CREATED A WHISKERFUL OF A LOVE STORY!



EXCELLENT! THAT WAY, NO ONE WILL THINK ABOUT THE GIANT WAVE AND THE DANGER WE FACED!

I'LL ADVERTISE MY ISLAND AS A... LOVE NEST!

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL... BUT NOT FOR EVERYONE!



~GRRR!~ I SEE THEIR PICTURE EVERYWHERE!



GARY AND NICKY! NICKY AND GARY! CAN'T ANYONE TALK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE?!



~GRUNT!~



VISSIA, HOWEVER, HADN'T TAKEN GARY MOON AND THE THEA SISTERS INTO ACCOUNT...

PLEASE CHANGE YOUR MIND, GARY! DON'T DO IT!

IT'S USELESS TO INSIST, JACK... I'VE ALREADY DECIDED!

THE CONTRACT WITH MS. DE VISSSEN MEANS NOTHING TO ME! AS FOR YOU... YOU'RE FIRED!

OH!

READY FOR THE PRESS CONFERENCE, GARY?

YES, OF COURSE, BUT...

...YOU'LL HELP ME, RIGHT? I'M A TOTAL WASHOUT WHEN I SPEAK IN PUBLIC!

THE THEA SISTERS AND PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN WILL BE BY YOUR SIDE! AND MAYBE EVEN THEA STILTON, IF SHE GETS HERE IN TIME!

UM, HELLO, EVERYBODY! THANKS FOR COMING!

I'M NOT A GREAT SPEAKER, SO I'LL GET RIGHT TO THE POINT...

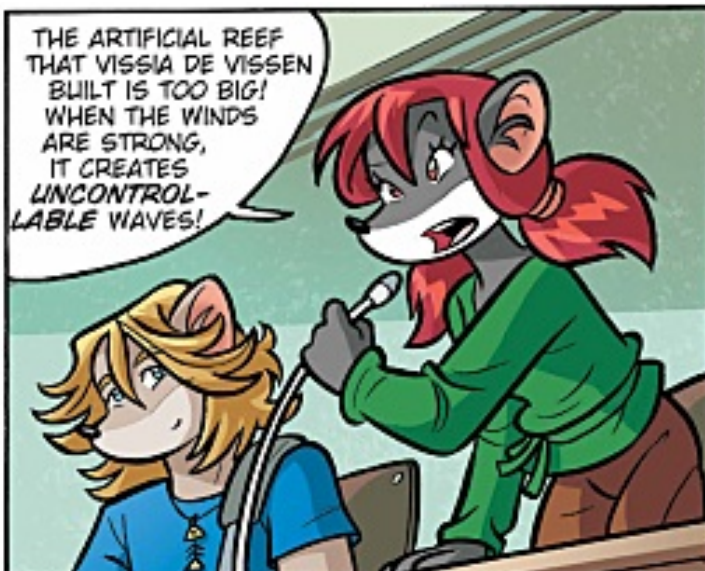
WHAT HAPPENED ON WINDY ISLAND WAS NOT AN ACCIDENT AT ALL!

IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT?

WHAT WAS IT?! HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT GIGANTIC WAVE?

IT WAS CAUSED BY THE ARTIFICIAL REEF! UM... MY FRIENDS WILL EXPLAIN IT BETTER THAN I CAN!







AND SO, AFTER A  
FULL EXPLANATION  
OF THE FACTS...

THEY'RE RIGHT!

THAT REEF IS  
DANGEROUS!

I'LL WRITE AN  
ARTICLE RIGHT AWAY!

THEN WE'RE IN  
AGREEMENT! WE'LL PUT  
YOUR STATEMENT ON  
PRIME TIME TV!

YOU CAN'T DO  
BETTER THAN THAT!

WE MUST INFORM THE WHALE  
ISLAND RESIDENTS ABOUT THE  
RISKS BEFORE THEY GO  
TO VOTE!

THE **WAVE**  
DIDN'T DEVASTATE  
JUST VISSIA'S  
ISLAND, BUT ALSO  
ROMEO GUYMOUSE'S  
REFERENDUM!

AND IF THAT WERE  
TO HAPPEN HERE?

A WAVE LIKE  
THAT WOULD BE  
DISASTROUS!

YOU CAN'T PLAY  
AROUND WITH THE SEA!  
WE FISHERMEN KNOW  
THAT VERY WELL!

I HEARD MS. DE VISSEN WILL  
DEMOLISH HER REEF!

NOT DEMOLISH,  
JUST  
DIMINISH!



VOTING DAY  
FINALLY  
ARRIVES...

A MONSTROSITY LIKE  
THAT NEAR DONKEY  
ISLAND? NEVER,  
NEVER!

YOU'RE  
RIGHT! NO  
ARTIFICIAL REEFS  
FOR OUR  
ISLAND!

DID I GET HERE  
TOO LATE? HAVE THEY  
ALREADY ANNOUNCED  
THE RESULTS OF THE  
REFERENDUM?

NOT YET...

SHHH!  
HERE IT IS!

100%  
NO

MY DEAR TV VIEWERS,  
IT'S INCREDIBLE! THE  
RESULTS WERE  
UNANIMOUS!

EVERYONE  
VOTED **NO!** NOT A  
SINGLE CITIZEN OF  
WHALE ISLAND VOTED  
IN FAVOR OF  
THE REEF!

HURRAY!

HURRAY!

WE DID IT!

MARY'S BURROS  
ARE SAVED!

NO REEF!

HEY, IF EVERYONE VOTED  
"NO," THAT MEANS...

... EVEN THE  
MAYOR VOTED  
AGAINST HIS OWN  
PROPOSAL!

WHAT'D I TELL YOU?  
UNDERNEATH IT ALL,  
ROMEO ISN'T BAD!  
HE REALIZED HE WAS  
WRONG, IN THE END!

HA! HA!  
HA!

HEE!  
HEE!  
HEE!

AND THEREFORE...  
HURRAY FOR ROMEO  
GUYMOURSE!



THE TIME HAS COME  
FOR GARY TO LEAVE...



THEY'LL HAVE TO KEEP  
IN TOUCH WITH EACH  
OTHER LONG-DISTANCE...



BUT THEIR FEELINGS ARE  
**STRONG!** PLUS, THEY'VE  
DISCOVERED THEY HAVE  
ANOTHER **POWERFUL  
BOND**, IN ADDITION TO  
THEIR LOVE FOR SURFING  
AND AUSTRALIA...



... A COMMITMENT  
TO PROTECTING  
NATURE!



THE END



# Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



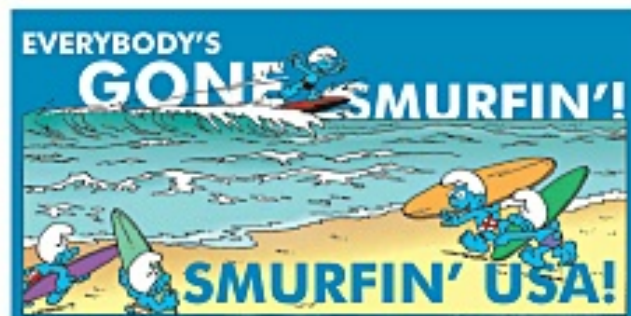
Surf's up!

Welcome to the fabulous, fast-paced fourth THEA STILTON graphic novel from Papercutz, the fantastic folks dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup* Editor-in-Chief and unofficial Whale Island lifeguard.

While I may be a fan of Brian Wilson (of the Beach Boys) and surf music in general, I've never been all that interested in actually surfing—other than surfing the net, that is. I even loved all those great teenagers-at-the-beach movies from the 50s and 60s, especially the ones with Don Rickles or Buster Keaton. But unlike our body-surfing, Coney Island-haunting, letterer and production whiz, Big Bird Zatrby, I simply prefer to stay on dry land, preferably, the non-sandy kind. I'm more like my fellow Editor-in-Chief Geronimo Stilton that way, although he proved to be better than he even imagined when he competed in the 100-meter Swim in GERONIMO STILTON #10 "Geronimo Stilton Saves the Olympics"...



Even the stars of another Papercutz title, love to surf..



Yes, even Smurfs surf! Just check out "Smurf Surfing" in THE SMURFS #17 "The Strange Awakening of Lazy Smurf"!

And as we now know, Nicky, Pamela, and Paulina of the Thea Sisters, and even Vanilla de Vissen, surf too. So, while the odds are that you'll never catch me hangin' ten, that doesn't mean I don't enjoy stories about surfing. And "Catching the Giant Wave" was certainly an enjoyable tale, featuring a whole lot of surfing fun, fun, fun under the sun.

So until THEA STILTON #5, I simply leave you with the two words Nicky said over the phone to her new sweetie, the

Australian surf champion, before he went to bed, "Goodnight, Moon!" (Sorry, I couldn't resist!)

Class dismissed!

Thanks,

*Jim*

## Stay in Touch!

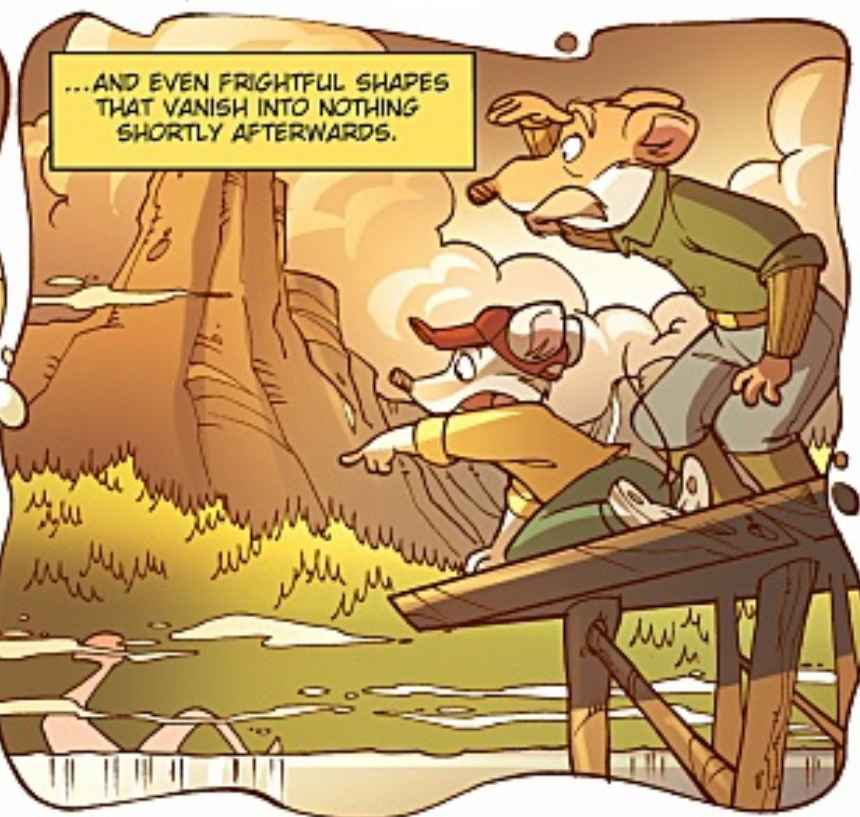
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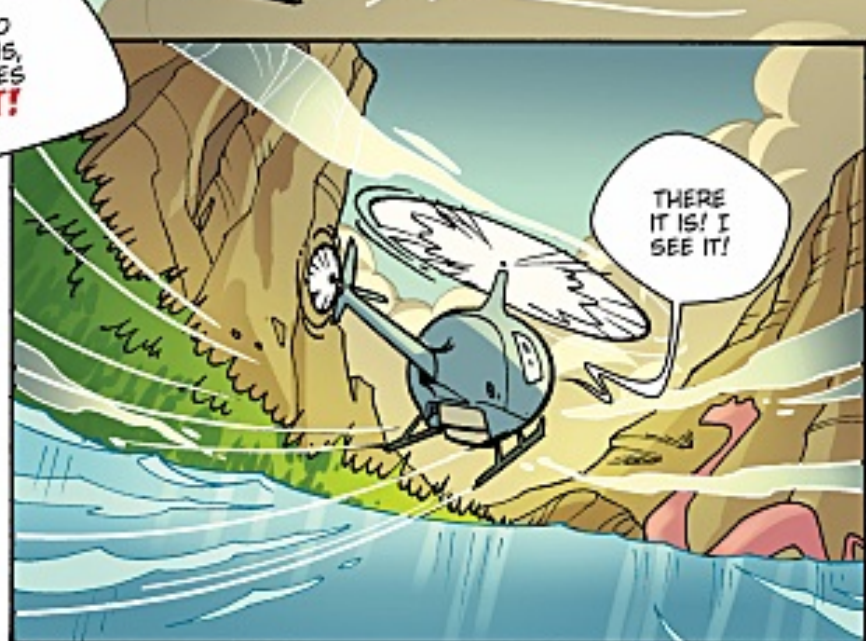




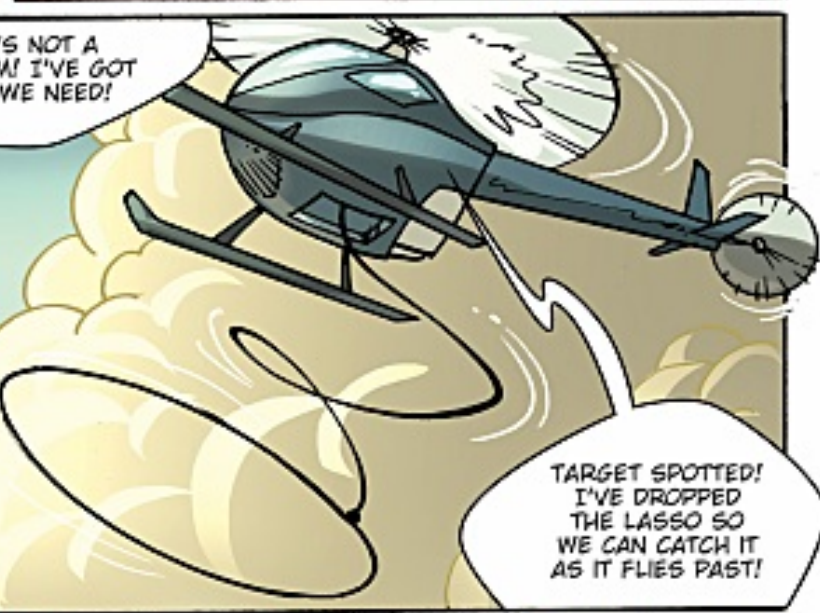




VRRMMMMMMMMMM







Don't Miss GERONIMO STILTON #15 "All for Stilton, Stilton for All!"



# LOOK OUT FOR THAT WAVE!

Everyone is talking about Windy Island's new surf center, even Nicky's hero, Australian surf champion Gary Moon! The artificial reef is supposed to create perfect waves. But the Thea Sisters have discovered a dangerous secret: even a surf champion can't face these giant waves! It's up to them to break the story before another reef is built off the shore of their beloved Donkey Beach.



The Thea sisters are five fun, lively students at Mouseford Academy on Whale Island, who want to be real, live journalists. Between classes and friendships, love and small fits of jealousy, they find life at the Academy to be a never-ending adventure!



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